

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 SSM-03

IO-13 SAM-01 SAJ-01 MCT-01 AID-05 /081 W

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R 181350Z NOV 76

FM AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8484

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

USMISSION USUN

C O N F I D E N T I A L JERUSALEM 1592

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PBOR, PFOR, IS, JO

SUBJECT: WEST BANK LEADERS AFTER CAIRO SUMMIT

REF: CAIRO 14751; JERUSALEM 1582; JERUSALEM 1591

1. SUMMARY: WEST BANK LEADERS ARE RELIEVED OVER RIYADH AND CAIRO DEVELOPMENTS AND EXPECT MOVEMENT ON DIPLOMATIC FRONT IN NEAR FUTURE. END SUMMARY.

2. CONSUL GENERAL AND NEW DPO CALLED ON NABLUS NOTABLE HIKMAT AL-MASRI NOV 18. AL-MASRI SAID HE HAPPENED BY CHANCE TO BE IN CAIRO FOR ARAB SUMMIT AND HE HAD OPPORTUNITY FOR TALK WITH PRESIDENT SADAT WHOM HE PRAISED AS HONEST MAN WHO SAID SAME THING IN PUBLIC AS IN PRIVATE.

3. AL-MASRI SUPPORTED CONCEPT OF PALESTINIAN STATE OF WB AND GAZA WHICH, HE SAID, WOULD HAVE TO HAVE ECONOMIC AND OTHER LINKS WITH EAST BANK. ON JERUSALEM, RESOLUTION 242 MEANT ISRAEL MUST WITHDRAW FROM EAST JERUSALEMALTHOUGH SOME
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FORM OF INTERNATIONAL REGIME WOULD BE WORKED OUT FOR HOLY

PLACES.

4. AL-MASRI THOUGHT PALESTINE NATIONAL COUNCIL WOULD MEET SOON AND INDICATE WILLINGNESS GO ALONG WITH WB/GAZA STATE IN EXCHANGE FOR TOTAL WITHDRAWAL TO PRE-67 LINES. HE REPEATED HIS STRONGLY HELD VIEW THAT THE PROBLEM CANNOT BE SOLVED UNTIL PALESTINIANS HAVE A STATE AND NATIONALITY OF THEIR OWN.

5. COMMENT: WE DOUBT AL-MASRI'S PRESENCE IN CAIRO DURING SUMMIT WAS FORTUITOUS. HE IS CONSIDERED TO BE SADAT'S CANDIDATE TO HEAD AN INDEPENDENT PALESTINIAN WB/GAZA STATE. ALTHOUGH WEST BANKERS DIFFER AS TO GOALS, MOST (SEE REFTELS) SEEM TO ANTICIPATE THAT EGYPTIAN-SYRIAN RAPPROCHEMENT COUPLED WITH SYRIAN PACIFICATION OF LEBANON PRESAGES RENEWAL OF ARAB-ISRAELI NEGOTIATIONS.
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